



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-04-137

PSC APPROVES SEWER SYSTEM SALE

Jefferson City (February 23, 2004)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an application which authorizes the sale of the sewer collection system assets of Ozark Water and Wastewater Management Co., Inc., (OWWM) to the English Village Not-for-Profit Sewer Corporation. Based upon a thorough review of the information filed in this case, the Commission determined the sale would not be detrimental to the public interest.

OWWM currently operates a sewage collection system and sewage treatment plant near Nixa, Missouri. The State of Missouri and its Department of Natural Resources have obtained an order from Christian County Circuit Court placing OWWM in the hands of a receiver because its water treatment facility is inadequate and in poor repair and has been a source of pollution. OWWM is currently being operated by the court-appointed receiver.

According to the application, OWWM will sell its sewage collection system to English Village Not-for-Profit Sewer Corporation, which has entered into an agreement with the City of Springfield for the treatment of the sewage collected from that system. Upon completion of the proposed transaction, OWWM's treatment facility will no longer be needed and will be shut down and dismantled.

Residential customers of OWWM currently pay a flat fee of \$10.00 a month for sewer service. That rate, which has not increased since 1990, is not sufficient to pay for a wastewater system that complies with the requirements of the Department of Natural Resources. According to the Commission order, for OWWM to construct a compliant system, it would have to charge its customers rates substantially above \$30.00 a month. According to the application, if the sale of assets is approved, the proposed rate would be approximately \$22.00 a month for sewer service.

OWWM serves approximately 415 sewer customers in Christian County near Nixa, Missouri.

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